

Torrance Herald

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Is the Key to All Your Liberties

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The Price of Education

Torrance voters Tuesday will be asked to pass on a proposal by the Torrance Unified School District that a 50-cent override be permitted on school tax rates.

Many reasons have been put forward by school administrators to explain the need for this tax, but the most compelling one is simply the forces of physical growth and expansion of the city's school system.

The number of students to be educated by the Torrance school system has grown faster than the school's ability to finance this education program, to put it in capsule form.

And school officials tell you the end is not in sight. With nearly 2000 new homes under construction now, and new apartments rising throughout the city, the school population is going to continue to rise sharply, entailing more costs for the district in staffing the schools and providing textbooks, lights, water, and gas.

It is never a pleasant duty to ask the already overburdened taxpayer for more money. School district officials who make this request (and will have to pay their share with their own taxes) would be happier if they could avoid the request, and the HERALD would be most grateful if the decision were unnecessary.

We, as citizens and taxpayers of Torrance, however, are faced with the problem of continuing the education of our children. The need for the money is here, and, we believe, has been adequately shown by school officials during recent weeks.

Eighty-five per cent of the operating money of the school district is spent on salaries—teachers, administrators, custodians, bus drivers, librarians, cafeteria workers—the balance is used to provide bus transportation, maintenance and supplies.

While the HERALD believes voters should approve the current 50-cent override request, its endorsement should not be taken as a blanket endorsement of the tax and spend theory of operations.

We would suggest to those who are opposing this measure that the time of the school's budget hearings is an excellent time to forestall such elections if it can be shown that the budget contains appropriations for unnecessary or frivolous activities.

Schools belong to the citizens, not the administrators, and the voice of the citizens can be effective in shaping the district's policies—fiscal and educational.

Ordeal by Fire

Every 15 seconds, four times a minute—240 times in every hour of the day and night, a fire breaks out somewhere in the United States.

During the last complete year, 1959, fire killed Americans at the rate of 950 a month. Of these fire victims, 30 per cent were children. And of the year's total deaths by fire—11,300—more than half occurred in home fires.

Against the backdrop of such somber facts, hundreds of industrial, business, educational and safety organizations over the Nation are seeking to enlist public attention in Fire Prevention Week, October 9-16.

Fire has been a friend to man since the dim dawn of history when it held back wild animals from the entrance to his cave.

Yet fire uncontrolled has been a terrible enemy—a billion-dollar enemy in property destruction alone.

To all who have given of time, effort and money to make this week of fire prevention a success—our salute.

Opinions of Others

His statement in regard to campaign expenses are further evidence as to his lack of qualifications for president. The American people should make clear to Senator Kennedy that the White House will never be up for sale... it is obvious that the truth is not in him.—*Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) quoted in Baltimore Sun.*

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Out of recent automobile group meetings comes the sordid story of methods practiced by the Teamsters' Union to fight the piggyback plan used by the railroads... According to reports, quantities of acid are being poured from underpass bridges on the tops of new cars as they move along underneath.—*Washington (Iowa) Journal.*

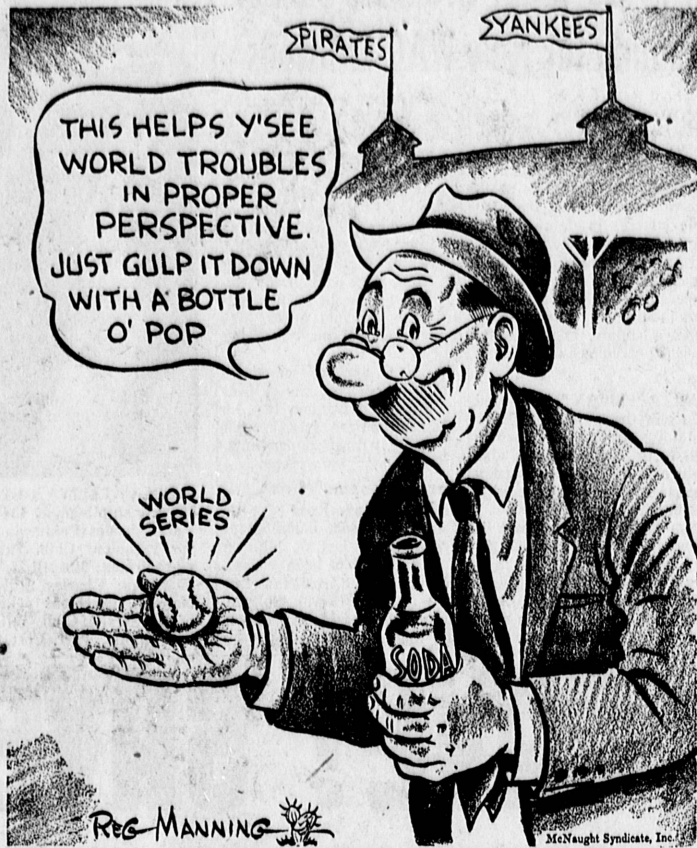
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No American knows more about the threat of Communism to America than does J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director. Repeatedly he has warned that the leaders of international Communism consider the United States as a symbol of the free world and that they cannot achieve their goal of world domination until the Red flag flies over this nation. Mr. Hoover cannot understand why a people who approve a yearly expenditure of \$40 billion for military defense against the Reds are so apathetic about Communism's infiltration into every segment of our American society.—*Hagerstown (Md.) Herald.*

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It is our responsibility to educate our children, to support the members of our family in need, and to aid our neighbors who are in want. Life is not a game; we have to do our part. No government can be all things to all men unless we face responsibility now we will find our lot much tougher in the future than we dreamed life could be.—*Beeville (Tex.) Bee-Picayune.*

The Wonder Pill



Civic Leaders Endorse Tax Override Proposal

Following are comments of area civic leaders who have endorsed the proposal of the Torrance Unified School District for a 50-cent override tax. Voters will ballot on the measure at a special election Tuesday.

MAYOR ALBERT ISEN: "I think Torrance has the finest school system in the state. I feel this tax override is needed to meet the needs of our growing town."

COUNCILMAN NICHOLAS O. DRALE: "The way things stand, we have no choice but to vote for the override. We must educate our children adequately; therefore, we must vote for the October 11 proposal."

FRED W. MILL, president, Torrance Industries Tax Committee: "The financial requirements of the Torrance Unified School District must be met to maintain necessary high standards of education. We believe these standards are necessary to educate our children. This can be done only by passage of the proposed 50-cent override tax."

R. L. HERBERT, chairman, education committee, Torrance Chamber of Commerce: "A good education system is necessary for the economic welfare of the community. It attracts industry and business to our city as well as workers who buy houses and spend money in the store. "Real estate values are enhanced as people are willing to pay more when they know there are good schools to which children can be sent. As an "All-American City,"

we should not settle for anything less than a first-rate educational system.

"The Chamber of Commerce and industry feel that there is no sounder investment than education of future citizens. We believe passage of this proposal is necessary."

BRUCE E. LEE, president, Local 881, United Auto Workers: "Nothing is more important to America than the education of its children. I feel this proposed override is a reasonable and necessary request. Even with the increase, Torrance taxes will compare favorably with those of neighboring cities."

RABBI HENRY E. FRONT, Temple Menorah: "I am for this override tax because I believe we taxpayers are privileged when our educators ask us for more finances to better teach our children. I would consider the educators derelict if they saw a need and did not ask us to meet the situation."

RT. REV. MSGR. THOMAS J. MCCARTHY, Nativity Roman Catholic Church: "Penny-wise, pound-foolish is part of the distilled wisdom of our race. It applies to communities as well as individuals. The community of Torrance which has thus far met the many fold challenges posed by its fantastic population growth, cannot be subjected to overcrowded classrooms without the quality of their education being seriously affected. Our teachers must not be asked to take salary cuts at a time when their professional com-

petence is already poorly recompensed. Our investment in the construction and maintenance of our schools must not be compromised by lack of staff to keep them in good working order.

"For these reasons it is important that we vote "Yes" on the override tax election issue next Tuesday, October 11th. Faith in our schools is demonstrated not by lip service but by the spirit of sacrifice we are willing to undergo so that the educational needs of our children can be adequately met."

MRS. OTTO WILLETT, former moderator, Torrance Educational Advisory Committee: "If individual communities fail to provide necessary funds for education, then government will have to step in. We must compete with the rest of the world and Russia in particular. Still, we can educate our children and preserve liberty.

"In Russia, children are not free to choose their own careers or their places of employment. We have the privilege of voting to prevent that from happening here. A little more on the tax bill, for the benefit of the next generation of free people is the best investment possible."

MRS. WILLIAM POSER, chairman, Mothers Committee, Torrance Council PTA: "As the costs rise, how can we fail to approve the override tax to insure continued maximum educational opportunity for our children? A "yes" vote on October 11 is an inexpensive investment in the future of our children."

Fire Dangers Stressed By Insurance Executive

While an Oklahoma father was hunting, his wife was caring for 15 children in their four-room home. Their wood-burning stove became overheated, starting a fire that claimed the life of his wife and all 15 children.

An Ohio family purchased an oil burning room heater for their children's bedroom. Either because of defective mechanism or improper operation, the heater exploded, setting the house afire. Both parents and all five children perished.

To help ward off the cold of a Maine blizzard, a father of six built an extra large fire in the coal stove used to heat his 1½ story frame home. In the fire that followed the father, a guest and five of the family's six children perished.

"These tragic high loss of life fires recorded during 1959 should make everyone

fire conscious and determined to rid their own home of potential catastrophes not only during Fire Prevention Week, but 52 weeks a year," C. J. Weiss, regional representative of a safety crusade for a leading insurance company.

Weiss said defective or overheated cooking or heating equipment caused 13.7 per cent of fire deaths.

"Careless smoking and improper handling of matches account for more than 17 per cent of the fires," he explained.

Fires usually do not start in a dark corner or an out of the way closet, he said. Most start in living rooms and kitchens.

"By far, the greatest cause of loss of life in these fires is because the victims become trapped within the building," he continued. "This is the

primary cause of more than 90 per cent of the deaths studied in a recent survey by the National Fire Protection Assn. International," he said. "Now, during Fire Prevention Week, is an ideal time to make certain your home is safe. However, effective fire prevention must be a continuous job the year around."

My Neighbors



"If anybody calls regarding broken windows, Pop, I'm taking the Fifth."

Equal Pay Law Passed Through Efforts of BPW

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL

Assemblyman, 46th District
California has a law providing for equal pay for equal work for women. The National Business and Professional Women's Clubs of California are entitled to credit for the passage of this important law because they were the ones who actively supported this type of legislation for many years.

The bill was originally introduced by the Honorable Pauline L. Davis, Democrat, but it was defeated in the first committee of the Assembly which heard it.

Two years later, I was the principal author of the same bill and was able to get it out of committee, passed by the Assembly and sent to the Senate, but there it was killed.

Another two years went by and the bill was again introduced by the Honorable Dorothy M. Donahoe, Democrat, of Bakersfield. Pauline Davis and I worked closely with Miss Donahoe, women's organizations became more active in contacting their own Assemblymen and State Senators, and the bill was enacted into law.

It is a good law but employers generally disregard it and will continue to do so until someone brings a test case in court and carries it up to the California State Supreme Court.

Twenty states have similar laws. Many bills of the same nature have been introduced in the Congress of the United States, but there is no federal law on the subject.

The National Science Foundation and Columbia University have conducted studies which show that women workers are essential to the nation, not only in supplementing male workers in vital fields but in increasing the national production and wealth.

The old idea that women are an employment risk because they may get married and quit after the employer has spent much time and money in training them is rapidly changing. Also, studies conducted over many years show that married women do not work simply to provide themselves with clothes, jewelry, and various luxury items. If married women did not work, most American families could not maintain their present high standards of living.

The income of women provides much of the money for the education of their children, the construction of better homes, the purchase of life insurance policies, and recreational facilities for families.

The average full-time, year-round income in the United States is \$4713, and that of women is \$3008, according to all the current reliable reports. These are national averages. In California, the averages are probably higher.

Education is the most important factor in raising the pay of women, just as it is in the case of men. There is a growing tendency for the income of women to increase and approach that of men in direct proportion to education

or training.

In the early days of the West, a woman who was not married had few opportunities. Usually, she could be a teacher, milliner, or a dressmaker. Today, throughout the United States many women are successfully holding jobs as accountants, chemists, mathematicians, statisticians, scientists, engineers, high-level technicians, physicians and business executives.

When I was in the aircraft industry, I had a few women on my staff who were qualified junior engineers. Most department heads did not want to hire them in that capacity, but I did and they were so efficient that several of them were eventually rated as senior engineers and paid accordingly. Actually, they worked harder than the male engineers and did better work.

Gradually they married and stayed home to raise families, but if a national emergency arose, these same women could return to work and perform their duties as well as any man.

Of course, there is a difference between men and women, but if a woman believes in what she is doing, she is more dedicated and enthusiastic than the average man, hence she is entitled to equal pay for equal work. Regardless of laws, I believe that time and experience will eventually convince employers that if a woman can do a man's job, she should be paid a man's wages.

Assemblymen Open Study Of State Air Problems

By VINCENT THOMAS

Assemblyman, 68th District
Properly, I suppose one can't use the phrase "no man's land" about problems connected with air transportation, but it has been asserted that a segment of airline operation within California exists over which neither the state or federal government has control, so is, in fact, "no man's air." As a result, a resolution was adopted calling for a study of the matter by the Assembly Committee on Public Utilities and Corporations. This group recently held the start of a series of meetings on the matter.

The interrelationship between state and federal controls in aeronautical affairs is not terribly complicated, but according to testimony presented to the committee, our state public utilities commission has received numerous complaints from the general public concerning service of airlines which is purely intrastate, that is, which originates and terminates within California. Neither our state nor the civil aeronautics board nor the civil aeronautics board area, it was stated.

When the federal civil aeronautics law was enacted in 1938, complete jurisdiction over the entire airspace of the United States was given to the authority created by the act. This five-member authority had broad powers to adopt civil air regulations relating to air traffic safety, which powers were transferred to its successor, the civil aeronautics board. Such regulations have been adopted, and in 1956 the federal courts held that such action has reserved all action in the field of aircraft safety to the federal government.

We of the Legislature acted in 1957 to spell out clearly and concisely the fact that the federal government has sole and complete authority and responsibility to regulate and control all aircraft in and the use of the established airways.

However, it was said that the numerous complaints received by our state commission indicate need for state legislation to remedy the situation so far as intrastate air transportation is concerned.

Schedule reliability, dropping of stops, ticketing practice, and ticket sales office locations were named as examples of complaint causes.

Suggestions that some sort of legislation be enacted in this field are not new. Several times since the end of World War II the matter has received legislative consideration, but no law was enacted. A couple of times it was proposed that regulatory power be given to the state aeronautics commission, rather than to the public utilities commission.

Proponents of legislation point to the fact that some twelve or fourteen other states have laws on the subject. Another argument in favor of such legislation is that its enactment will give the state authority to prevent abandonment of service to many smaller communities all over the state. Successful state supervision of intrastate operations of interstate railroads was also mentioned.

Opposition to any legislation in the field came from many airlines, but not from (Continued on Page 15)

From the Mailbox

By Our Readers

Editor, Torrance Herald

I feel as though I have been standing around waiting for a chance to say something very important, and I am taking this opportunity to say it.

I have been excited about the schools in our city. I feel they are doing an excellent job, and since the tax override election came up I have wanted more than ever to shout in its behalf.

Since coming to Torrance 15 months ago, I have come to deeply respect the quality of our educational program. I not only want to see it continue but strengthened. However, our school board tells us that without the success of the election next Tuesday we can't even continue as we are, but that our program must be drastically cut.

The reasons are clear. Skyrocketing enrollment (up 1248 per cent since 1948), mounting costs for salaries and materials, and a declining proportion of state aid add up to an imperative "Yes" vote next Tuesday.

Failure to approve the tax increase is flirting with great danger to our children's edu-

cation. Approval of this increase places in the hands of our School Board tools necessary to maintain the current high level of efficiency and reputation which our city schools now enjoy.

Dare we do less than say "Yes"?

REV. GILBERT S. ZIMMERMAN, Pastor, First Methodist Church, Torrance

Editor, Torrance Herald

I am speaking for many of my friends as well as myself when I say, Mr. Bert Lynn's objection to the proposed school tax increase with out a specified time date is well taken.

Every citizen of this country is aware that the future of the United States is dependent upon a well educated youth, but is quality obtained by means of a blank check? Thrift has always been a virtue and an admirable quality and must be taught and encouraged.

Sacrifice on the part of parents is at a high cost today as the tax structure, of necessity, is at an all time high

due to the precarious position of the world.

I therefore believe, that it behooves all administrators to be conscious of waste and unnecessary frills and frostings. I am referring to lush landscaping, expensive exterior stonework and various other appointments that makes for an impressive school structure, administrative officers and warehouses, but nil for contributing to education.

I am in receipt of two mailings from the Torrance School District today at a cost of 3 cents each and the paper backing of these pamphlets are of a high grade which I feel is utter waste.

The student could easily carry this literature home and the message just as well stated on less costly paper. I also oppose the night school program with the costly hobbies offer, ie: cake-decorating, ceramics etc., this should be paid for by the student. Night school should offer citizenship and high school education courses only on the present bases.

Mrs. Lawrence Sommers Jr., 3024 El Dorado Street